

Introduction

The Town of Emerald Isle is planning to dredge a new channel at Bogue Inlet, Onslow County, North Carolina. To assess the proposed project's impact on submerged cultural resources, the consulting engineer, Coastal Planning & Engineering [CPE] of Boca Raton, Florida, contracted with Tidewater Atlantic Research Inc. [TAR], of Washington, North Carolina to conduct a remote sensing investigation of the proposed channel as well as a section of the existing channel.

The investigation was designed to provide accurate and reliable identification, assessment and remote sensing documentation of submerged cultural resources in the study area. The survey methodology was developed to comply with the criteria of National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 11-190), Executive Order 11593, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Procedures for the protection of historic and cultural properties (36 CFR Part 800) and the updated guidelines described in 36 CFR 64 and 36 CFR 66. The results of the investigation furnished CPE with the archaeological data required for complying with submerged cultural resource legislation and regulations.

Prior to the fieldwork, a program of historical and documentary research was conducted to provide a proper framework for submerged cultural resource assessment in the Bogue Inlet area. Field research was conducted on 1 January and 6 June 2003. Analysis of the remote sensing data revealed a total of three magnetic anomalies: one in Area 1 and two in Area 2. Of those targets, only the anomaly within Area 1 exhibited signature characteristics consistent with submerged cultural resources. However, because on-site disturbance will consist of the deposit of dredge spoil, it appears that there will be no adverse impacts to the material generating the target signature. The two targets within Area 2 appear to have been generated by single ferrous objects such as crab traps, small diameter pipe, small boat anchor or other modern debris. Based on the remote sensing survey no submerged cultural resources will be impacted by the proposed project. No further investigation is recommended in conjunction with the proposed project.

Project personnel consisted of Dr. Gordon P. Watts, Jr., principal investigator, archaeologists Raymond Tubby and Mark Padover and archaeological technician Gary Gaddy. Gordon Watts, Raymond Tubby and Mark Padover prepared the report for production.

Project Location

Bogue Inlet is located in Onslow County, North Carolina and is primarily fed by the White Oak River and Bogue Sound. The mouth of the inlet is located between Bogue Banks and Bear Island. The proposed project includes two survey areas. Bogue Area 1 is an rectangular shaped, 22.3 acre area in the